

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Services Division



HF 548 – Vision Screening for School Children (LSB 2014HV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 548 requires the parent or guardian of a child to ensure that the child is screened for vision impairment at least once before enrollment in kindergarten and again before enrollment in third grade. This Bill provides multiple options for vision screenings, and evidence of the vision screening is to be provided to the school district by a parent or guardian or a vision screening provider as referenced in the Bill. The Department of Public Health (DPH) is required to collect and maintain vision screening reports that are provided by the person who performs a vision screening. The DPH is required to establish procedures to contact the parent or guardian of children in need of vision correction based on the results of a required vision screening to provide information on obtaining necessary vision correction.

Background

In FY 2013, the DPH received a General Fund appropriation allocation of \$150,000 to support contractual agreements for child vision screening programs. The programs are offered through the University of Iowa (Iowa Kidsight) and Prevent Blindness Iowa.

Assumptions

- The DPH estimates 70,000 children will be screened through the program each year.
- School districts will not incur any additional costs associated with collecting evidence of a vision screening from a parent or guardian or a vision screening provider as referenced in the Bill.
- A one-time technology upgrade to Iowa's Immunization Registry will be required to receive and monitor child vision screening results.
- After the first year of the upgrade to Iowa's Immunization Registry, yearly hosting and maintenance costs will be required to maintain the vision screening collection system.
- An additional 1.0 FTE position will be required to monitor data entry compliance with Iowa's Immunization Registry, monitor school/provider screening results reporting, and conduct analysis of child vision screening data.
- An additional 0.5 FTE position will be required to contact the parent or guardian of children in need of vision correction based on the results of an eye examination to provide information on obtaining necessary vision correction.
- Salaries are expected to grow 3.0% annually.

Fiscal Impact

The General Fund fiscal impact of **HF 548** is estimated to be an additional cost of \$307,201 in FY 2014 and \$146,952 in FY 2015. The following table breaks out the costs associated with Iowa's Immunization Registry upgrade and the FTE positions. The fiscal impact to the General Fund associated with the FTE positions will continue in succeeding fiscal years increasing by 3.0% annually.

	FY 2014	FY 2015
Iowa's Immunization Registry		
Vision Screening System Upgrade	\$ 200,000	\$ 0
Hosting and Maintenance	0	39,384
FTE Positions		
Additional 1.0 FTE position to monitor the Vision Screening System	71,364	73,505
Additional 0.5 FTE position to contact the parent or guardian	31,784	32,738
FTE Support - computer package	1,403	0
FTE Support - office supplies, phone, printing costs, other	2,650	1,325
Total General Fund Impact:	\$ 307,201	\$ 146,952

Source

Iowa Department of Public Health

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 19, 2013

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.